(a) whether it is proposed to set up a Commission for the welfare of people returning from abroad after termination of their work contract or who have been dismissed from service due to any reason or harassed by their employer; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Prominent Indians abroad

1592. SARDAR TARLOCHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has ever invited prominent Indians settled abroad to India, if so, the names of the persons;

(b) whether his Ministry has prepared a list of people of Indian origin who have attained high position in Government, Legislature and in public life in each country, if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any proposal to increase the number of Pravasi Bhartiya Award as it is given to only 10 persons; and

(d) whether Government has at any time published any literature about the achievements of NRIs and order to further encourage them and create goodwill of India abroad?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) The Ministry has been inviting prominent overseas Indians settled abroad to inter-alia, participate in the annual Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD) Conventions, held since 2003. The list of dignitaries and speakers invited for PBD-2009 is attached as Statement (*See* below).

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The maximum number of Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Awards (PBSA) conferred every year is 15, as prescribed in the guidelines governing PBSA. There is no proposal to increase them.

(d) No, Sir.

Statement

List of Overseas Indians Dignitaries invited for Pravasi Bharatiya Divas Convention 2009

Sl. No.	Name	Country
1	2	3
1.	Mr. Brian Robert Hayes	Australia
2.	Dr. Ravi Filial	Bahrain
3.	Ms. Meera Ravi	Bahrain

1	2	3
4.	Mr. Soman Baby	Bahrain
5.	Dr. Philomena Ann Mohini Harris	Barbados
6.	Dr. Ruby Dhalla	Canada
7.	Mr. Hari Panday	Canada
8.	Mr. Kasi V.P. Rao	Canada
9.	Dr. Ravi Seethapathy	Canada
10.	Mr. Shan Chandrasekar	Canada
11.	Mr. Deepak Obhari	Canada
12.	Ambassador K.K. Bhargava	Canada
13.	Ms. Jaya Subramaniam	Canada
14.	Mr. HarinderTakhar	Canada
15.	Dr. Alok Mukherjee	Canada
16.	Ms. Asha Luthra	Canada
17.	Prof. Rajesh Chandra	Fiji
18.	Mr. Mahendra Chaudhury	Fiji
19.	Mr. Ranvir Nayar	France
20.	Mr. Kiran Malhotra	Germany
21.	Dr. Prem Misir	Guyana
22.	Mr. Mathunny (Sunny) Mathew	Kuwait
23.	Dato' Seri S. Samy Vellu	Malaysia
24.	Dato Dr. S. Subramaniam	Malaysia
25.	Mr. P. Ramasamy	Malaysia
26.	Datuk Dr. Denison Jayasooria	Malaysia
27.	Ms. Leela Gujadhur Sarup	Mauritius
28.	Mr. Mahyendra Utchanah	Mauritius
29.	Mr. Jose Parayanken	Mozambique
30.	Mr. R.L. Lakhina	Netherlands
31.	Dr. M.K. Gautam	Netherlands
32.	Mr. Wahid Saleh	Netherlands

1	2	3
33.	Mr. Venkat Raman	New Zealand
34.	Mr. S.K. Virmani	Oman
35.	Prof. Narana Sinai Coissoro	Portugal
36.	Mr. R. Seetharaman	Qatar
37.	Mr. Jean Regis Ramsamy	Reunion Island
38.	Mr. Sat Pal Khattar	Singapore
39.	Mr. Gopinath Pillai	Singapore
40.	Mr. K. Shanmugam	Singapore
41.	Mr. Vijay Iyengar	Singapore
42.	Mr. Vavakunju Shihabudeen	Saudi Arabia
43.	Prof. Dasarath Chetty	South Africa
44.	Mr. Loganathan Naidoo	South Africa
45.	Justice Mohini Murugesan	South Africa
46.	Ms. Shireen Sarojini Mudali Munsamy	South Africa
47.	Mr. Amichand Rajbansi	South Africa
48.	Dr. T.P. Naidoo	South Africa
49.	Mr. Arumugam Thondaman	Sri Lanka
50.	Mr. P. Chandrasekaran	Sri Lanka
51.	H. E. Mr. Ramdien Sardjoe	Suriname
52.	Mr. Arun Amirtham	Switzerland
53.	Dr. Rajni Kanabar	Tanzania
54.	Dato Satish Sehgal	Thailand
55.	Mr. Anand Ramlogan	Trinidad & Tobago
56.	Yusuffali M.A.	UAE
57.	Mr. Rajinder Paul Loomba	UK
58.	Lord Diljit Singh Rana, MBE	United Kingdom
59.	Dr. Ramesh Mehta	UK
60.	Baroness Shreela Flather	UK
61.	Mr. Sam G. Pitroda	USA

1	2	3
62.	Prof. Sugata Bose	USA
63.	Prof. C.K. Prahalad	USA
64.	Mr. Inder Singh	USA
65.	Ms. Renu Khator	USA
66,.	Mr. Prakash M. Swamy	USA
67.	Mr. Ashook Ramsaran	USA
68.	Mr. Thomas Abraham	USA
69.	Dr. Sanku S. Rao	USA
70.	Dr. M. Anirudhan	USA
71.	Mr. Ashwin Patel	USA
72.	Justice A.M. Ebrahim	Zimbabwe

Racial attack in Melbourne

1593. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to an unfortunate incident of racist attack on Indian where a 22 year old Sikh was assaulted and his turban was also removed by a group of teenagers while he was sleeping in a bus stop near railway station in Epping in Melbourne, suburb that has seen a spate of racist attacks on Indians;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereon; and

(c) the details of steps taken by Government to put an end to such attacks and the results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The High Commissioner of India had specifically taken up the issue of this attack in Epping which took place on 12 September 2009 with the Premier of Victoria himself. The Premier had responded by reiterating that it was regrettable that incidents of violence were still occurring in Victoria and that he considered any act of racially motivated violence or racism as completely unacceptable.

As a result of a series of high-level discussions and demarches made by Indian Mission/Posts in Australia, the Australian Government has taken various steps. They have announced a series of measures, including stricter policing in Victoria and NSW, aimed at ensuring the safety and security of Indian students in Australia. These steps have been useful and the incidence of attacks have decreased.

Indian students in Australia, New Zealand and Singapore

1594. SHRI Y. P. TRIVEDI: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state: